

*AASC meeting  
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These comparisons do not show us, nor are they intended to show, which is the more accurate. However, the new system (which could very well be the more accurate of the two) could easily introduce a change in our records; a change that will not be due to the climate, but the result of the introduction of the MMTS or "beehive" into our climatological networks. In order to determine the effect of this new system, the two methods of temperature measurement should be recorded side by side for several years at a number of stations so that an adjustment factor can be determined and introduced into the records. In this way, there will be less chance for a false climate "change" to become a part of our historical climatic records.

Donald G. Baker  
David L. Ruschy  
University of Minnesota

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### AASC Meeting

The 1989 meeting of the American Association of State Climatologists was opened July 8, 1989, at Bar Harbor, Maine, by the Association's president Wayne Wendland. Through the course of that first day Wayne, and on the second day president-elect Kelly Redmond, introduced speakers from several branches of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the United States Department of Agriculture, the Drought Information Center, the six Regional Climate Centers, and State Climatology Offices. The topics ranged from new satellite observing systems to new perspectives on data streams never intended for climate studies. For PCs, there will be "QC on the fly" as well as a reincarnated (but

improved) "TP40". Sandwiched between presentations, the Association's business meeting saw to matters requiring the decisions of its members.

The speaking program was started off with Ken Kunkel, who discussed some measures of variability recommended for use in addition to "normals". Alan Hecht of NCPO pointed out the administration-dependent uncertain future of climatology and the NCPO, and emphasized SC and RCC involvement in impact studies and risk assessment. The Regional Climate Centers each made presentations with many common themes including CLICOM use and training, and user services including special calculations on real-time information systems. Kelly Redmond explained an iterative quality control process involving NCDC, the Western Climate Center, and Oregon. Steve Doty of NCDC suggested possible award/recognitions and "focal" points for the Centennial Cooperative Observer Program. Tom Blackburn brought listeners up-to-date on a number of Coop issues including a return to a government-run Coop station maintenance program and the status of several MMTS issues. John Ball of OAR talked of a developing interest in climate within the research structures of NOAA and suggested that Mike Pall at 301-443-8415 could give further information on NOAA/OCAR overview of emerging high-tech sensors and associated acquisition hardware. Ken Hadeen of NCDC rounded out the first day by describing the reorganization of NCDC; new division heads needed; heavy PC use linked by LAN; international definitions, standards, and archival; and major pricing changes.

Kelly Redmond, introduced by Wayne Wendland (at that moment becoming the current

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*Dr. Mark  
Shulman named  
President-elect.*

*Atlantic City  
will be site of  
1990 AASC annual  
meeting.*

"past president") as the Association's president for 1989-90, started and presided over the business meeting held on the morning of the second day. Minutes and resolutions from the last meeting were dealt with briefly as the members turned to new business.

The formal decisions of the business meeting are presented here in the order in which they occurred. The Constitution (Title IV.2) was changed by the members to redefine voting members to also include "designated representatives of Regional Climate Centers." A legislative Study Group was formed to review existing and emerging legislation regarding global climate change and to recommend action to the executive committee and to members. Pat Michaels will chair that committee composed of the (new) executive committee and Claude Duchon, Harry Hillaker, John Purvis, Jim Laver, George Bomar, and Bob Muller. New Associate members Paul Croft, Bob Bermowitz, John Zeitzman, Ron McCall, and Frank Quinlan were approved by a voice vote. The only nomination for president-elect, Mark Shulman, and the recommendation that the Secretary-Treasurer, Jim Zandlo, be continued were unanimously approved. In a vote for preference, Atlantic City as chosen over Fort Worth as the site of the 1990 meeting (first half of August, a Tuesday through Thursday).

Other new business not resulting in any formal action included Tom Blackburn's suggestion that the AASC Secretary-Treasurer receive private contributions to a "Centennial Weather Station Fund." Kelly Redmond brought up long-term station continuity

problems to which was appended problems with data not originally designated for climatic use and problems associated with the replacement of traditional observations with automated devices. Kelly concluded this discussion by stating that as president he WILL write appropriate letters. Finally, insufficient interest was shown in holding the 1991 meeting in Hawaii during the time of a total eclipse of the sun.

Norton Strommen of USDA restarted the topical sessions by talking of viewpoints and activities associated with USDA's strategic plan including an expression of need to solve problems on an international cooperative scale. Again Ken Hadeen presents, this time about CLICOM system benefits, a new CLICOM version due this fall, and a CLICOM USERS' group. Greg McCurdy of Utah described his state's considerable and continuing investment of efforts within that system. Ian Barrie of the UK AG Weather Program gave some insights into another country's data systems and data requirements and into its budgetary milieu. Jim Laver of CAC described a broad range of activities and products designed to describe impacts of the climate. Norm Canfield told us everything we wanted to know (or is possible to know) in terms of numbers, dates, etc., about the imminent ASOS system. Steve Williams described a high-tech, global scale interdisciplinary NASA effort known as "Mission to Planet Earth." Finally, John Vogel of the NWS Office of Hydrology brought us back to the surface with new studies of probable maximum precipitation and other hydrologic studies which in one form will run on PCs and make TP40 a thing of the past.

In closing, Kelly Redmond notes

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that Doug Clark, SC-Wisconsin, will be on sabbatical in Denmark for the next year and that a half-time student will attempt to keep things going there. Also, Oregon may lose funding for its SC position this year. Kelly urges that a strong need for state level SC style services will continue in spite of emerging regional services. Kelly also urges members to read, comment on, and respond to HR1880.

Wayne Wendland declared the 1989 meeting closed.

Jim Zandlo  
Secretary, AASC

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### Satellite Analysis Charts

The National Climatic Data Center (NCDC) in Asheville began processing subscription orders for Satellite Analysis Charts in January 1989. These charts had formerly been available from the Satellite Data Services Division of NCDC. Seventeen weekly or monthly sea surface temperature and snow and ice charts from seven different series were available initially. These charts, produced by the Ocean Products Center, the Navy/NOAA Joint Ice Center, and the Synoptic Analysis Branch of the National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service are sent to Asheville for distribution. In May 1989, NCDC began a subscription service for seven additional weekly or bi-monthly charts formerly distributed by the Ocean Products Center.

Since usefulness of the charts is time-critical to a large number of users, especially in the fishing industry, efforts to shorten the length of time from production in Washington to mailing from Asheville are

on-going. Most charts are sent via overnight mailing, and two sets of charts (Gulfstream and Thermal Analyses) are FAXed to Asheville on the day of production. Sets of the Gulfstream and Thermal Analyses are mailed from Asheville weekly. Other charts are mailed semi-monthly or monthly depending upon production times. Charts can be FAXed from Asheville to customers, but presently fees are very expensive: \$55.00 for a one-time FAXing or \$25.00 per week for a period of at least 3 months or longer. Work on making FAX available for customers to access on a daily basis is on-going.

Back issues for all of the subscription charts plus discontinued charts are available for varying periods from the archives which were transferred to NCDC at the same time as the subscription service. Back issue charts are \$1.00 each. Mailed chart size varies from 8 1/2 x 11 inches to 11 x 17 inches.

For more information, contact NCDC's user services or send for the brochure "Satellite Analysis Charts Available from the NCDC - June 1989."

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### Federal Meteorological Handbooks

The National Climatic Data Center is now servicing requests from the private sector for new Federal Meteorological Handbooks (FMH). Currently, two new FMHs are available for \$20.00 each plus shipping and handling.

FMH No. 2 - Surface Synoptic  
Codes

FMH No. 10 - Meteorological  
Rocket Observations

Contact NCDC user services for details (704-259-0682).

*Twenty-four  
Satellite  
Analysis Charts  
are now available  
from NCDC.*

*The U.S. delegation  
to the CCI-X  
meeting held in  
Lisbon, Portugal  
included (L-R) Ken  
Kunkel, Jay Fein,  
Ken Hadeen, and  
Dave Rodenhuis.*



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